

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 540

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Sarah Grace Pendergrass, 2009 Valedictorian of Hutchison School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence, have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Grace Pendergrass is one such exceptional student who was recently named Valedictorian of the 2009 graduating class at Hutchison School; and

WHEREAS, through diligent study, steady composure during examinations, and steadfast commitment of time and talent, Ms. Pendergrass has achieved outstanding academic success and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, in her remarkable high school career, she has earned an exemplary 5.16 grade point average while participating in a host of worthy extracurricular activities and earning numerous awards; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Pendergrass not only wrote for but also served as the Editor of *The Signpost*, Hutchison's newspaper, and she was the Art Editor for *The Emblem*, the school's art and literary magazine; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Thespian Society, Ms. Pendergrass acted in several school productions and worked behind-the-scenes in a number of others; and

WHEREAS, a leader among her peers at Hutchison, Sarah Pendergrass served as the President of the National Latin Honor Society and President of the Quill and Scroll Society, and she attended the Student Leadership Institute at the University of the South; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, she won the Latin Book Award, the Molly Shehan Spears Award, the Hollins University Book Award, and the Yale University Book Award; and

WHEREAS, she has also been honored with membership in Mu Alpha Theta and the Sara Frey History Society; an exceptional student of Latin, Ms. Pendergrass performed most admirably on the National Latin Exam, passing *summa cum laude* in both her freshman and sophomore years, and she is a member of the Tennessee Junior Classical League; and

WHEREAS, deeply committed to community service as well as academic excellence, Ms. Pendergrass has served as a tutor at the Emmanuel Center, and volunteered for the Perea School Christmas Party and the Memphis Work Camp; for her dedication to community service, Ms. Pendergrass has been honored with membership in both the Ascensus Society and the Wilson Society; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Pendergrass served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Community Service Organization in her sophomore year, and in her freshman and junior years, she served as a Representative of the Organization; and

WHEREAS, Sarah's display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for her future success; and

WHEREAS, her noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for her parents, Drs. Landon and Donna Pendergrass, her school, and her community; and

WHEREAS, Sarah's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and honor the 2009 Hutchison School Valedictorian, Sarah Grace Pendergrass, on her impressive academic achievement and extend to her our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.